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| CCQs: | Notes: |
| Why couldn’t they have simply revise the Articles of Confederation than to have started a new one? Wouldn’t it be easier?  Why did they think it was godlike in wisdom, what was so perfect about it? I mean nothing is really perfect…  Well this is one major flaw if they didn’t know what the Constitution meant… | MI (1st P): The Americans were displeased with their national government, but at first didn’t want it strong for a reason.   * The government could not… 1.Deal with factiousness and instability 2. Failure to handle economic problems effectively 3. No power when facing a rebellion (ex: Shay’s Rebellion) * They feared that it would encroach on the sovereignty of the individual states if they had a strong national government * 1787- Established the Constitution of the U.S.   MI (2nd P): The Constitution was well received by the Americans.   * It was derived from most of its principles from the state documents that had preceded it. Also a remarkable achievement- survived for more than two centuries as one of the stablest and most successful in the world; William Gladstone said it was a wonderful work of law, because of the state of America * Americans generally agreed in some years, took on some characteristics of a sacred document, later people said it was godlike in its wisdom * Created by not perfect people but had people with unusual talent and brilliance (ex: Benjamin F., George W., James M., etc.) * People saw very few flaws in it   MI (3rd P): The Constitution changed many things, but was not the best, had some flaws   * The Constitution did not complete the creation of the republic * Caused more debate over the future of government (continued it) * Americans said it was near perfect but disagreed on what the document meant, they still do. Result of this was the first great political battles of the new nation |
| Summary: During the beginning of the Articles of Confederation, its flaws were revealed and so the Americans had to create a new and better national government. So the Constitution was born and most people had liked it, thought it was even godlike (in wisdom) but they still wonder what the Constitution meant that would lead to the first of great political battles in the new nation. | |